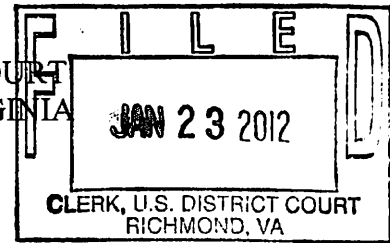


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Richmond Division



JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC., a
Pennsylvania Corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No.: 3:12CV053

THE VILLAGE CAFE, INC., a Virginia Entity,
d/b/a THE VILLAGE CAFE

Serve on:

Michael P. Lafayette
Registered Agent for The Village Cafe, Inc.
Lafayette, Ayers, & Whitlock PLC
10160 Staples Mill Road, Suite 105
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

AND

JOHN DOE,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC., by and through its undersigned attorneys,
BUCCI & DIX, LLC, sues the Defendants, THE VILLAGE CAFE, INC., d/b/a THE VILLAGE
CAFE, and/or JOHN DOE, and for cause says:

Jurisdiction

1. This action arises under Section 705 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 553 and 605.
2. Jurisdiction in this Court is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1331.
3. Venue in this Court is proper under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) as these claims arose in this district.

Parties

4. The Plaintiff, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC. ("JOE HAND PROMOTIONS") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with its principal office and place of business located in Pennsylvania.

5. The Defendants, THE VILLAGE CAFE, INC., doing business as THE VILLAGE CAFE ("VILLAGE CAFE") and/or JOHN DOE (collectively referred to hereinafter as "Defendants") are business entities, or individuals, having their principal place of business at 1001 West Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia 23220.

Preliminary Background

6. JOE HAND PROMOTIONS entered into a closed-circuit television license agreement to exhibit the closed-circuit August 7, 2010 telecast of Ultimate Fighting Championship 117: Anderson Silva v. Chael Sonnen, including preliminary events (the boxing matches and all related events are collectively referred to as the "Event"), at closed-circuit locations such as theaters, arenas, bars, clubs, lounges, restaurants and the like throughout Virginia (the "License Agreement"). JOE HAND PROMOTIONS paid substantial fees for its license.

7. JOE HAND PROMOTIONS entered into the License Agreement for the purpose of distributing for a commercial gain the closed-circuit broadcast of the Event to various business establishments throughout VIRGINIA.

8. The closed-circuit broadcast of the Event was not intended for the use of the general public. In VIRGINIA, the closed-circuit broadcast of the Event could only be exhibited in a commercial establishment if said establishment was contractually authorized to do so by JOE HAND PROMOTIONS.

9. Pursuant to the License Agreement, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS marketed and distributed the closed-circuit rights granted to it. JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, through its agents, contracted with various establishments throughout VIRGINIA and granted to such establishments the right to broadcast the Event in exchange for a fee.

10. The transmission of the Event was electronically coded or "scrambled". In order for the signal to be received and telecast clearly, it had to be decoded with electronic decoding equipment.

11. The transmission of the Event was available to the Defendants to purchase for broadcast in VILLAGE CAFE. Had they done so, they would have been authorized to receive, transmit and publish the Event in VILLAGE CAFE. Defendants did not, however, contract with JOE HAND PROMOTIONS or any of its agents, to obtain the rights to broadcast the Event.

12. The establishments which contracted with JOE HAND PROMOTIONS to broadcast the Event were provided with the electronic decoding capability and/or satellite coordinates necessary to receive the signal of the Event.

13. On August 7, 2010, in violation of JOE HAND PROMOTIONS' rights and federal and state law, the Defendants willfully intercepted and/or received the interstate communication of the Event. In the alternative, the Defendants assisted in the receipt of the interstate communication of the Event. The Defendants then transmitted, divulged and published said communication, or assisted in transmitting, divulging and publishing said communication, to patrons within VILLAGE CAFE.

14. The Defendants misappropriated JOE HAND PROMOTIONS' licensed exhibition of the Event and infringed upon JOE HAND PROMOTIONS' exclusive rights while avoiding proper payment to JOE HAND PROMOTIONS. Defendants' actions were committed willfully

and with the express purpose and intent to secure a commercial advantage and private financial gain.

15. The Defendants enabled the patrons within VILLAGE CAFE to view the Event to which neither the Defendants nor the patrons were entitled to do.

16. The persons whom Defendants permitted to view the Event would otherwise have been able to view it at a commercial establishment only if said commercial establishment was properly licensed and authorized by JOE HAND PROMOTIONS.

17. The Defendants were not authorized to intercept, receive or transmit the communication of the Event or to assist in such actions in any form or at any time.

COUNT I

VIOLATION OF 47 U.S.C. § 553

18. JOE HAND PROMOTIONS hereby incorporates the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 17 above as if the same were fully set forth and realleged herein.

19. The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 553 (“Section 553”) provides, in relevant part:

No person shall intercept or receive or assist in intercepting or receiving any communications service offered over a cable system, unless specifically authorized to do so by a cable operator or as may otherwise be specifically authorized by law.

47 U.S.C. § 553(a)(1).

20. The Defendants’ wrongful actions in connection with the Event, as described above, were in violation of Section 553.

21. Section 553(c)(1) provides that “[a]ny person aggrieved by any violation of subsection (a)(1) of [§ 553] may bring a civil action in a United States district court” to recover

damages as described further in § 553(c).

22. JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is a person aggrieved by Defendants' violations of Section 553, and it is therefore authorized to institute this action against the Defendants to recover damages from the Defendants for their violations of Section 553 and their interference with JOE HAND PROMOTIONS' proprietary rights.

23. As a result of the Defendants' wrongful acts, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is entitled to the statutory damages provided for in Section 553.

24. Because of Defendants' wrongful actions, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is entitled to judgment against the Defendants for (a) statutory damages in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) pursuant to § 553(c)(3)(A)(ii); (b) statutory damages for willfulness in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), pursuant to § 553(c)(3)(B); and (c) full costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, pursuant to § 553(c)(2)(C).

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC., requests that this Court enter judgment, jointly and severally, against Defendants, THE VILLAGE CAFE, INC., a Virginia entity, d/b/a THE VILLAGE CAFE, and/or JOHN DOE, for:

(a) Statutory damages in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) pursuant to § 553(c)(3)(A)(ii);

(b) Statutory damages for willfulness in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), pursuant to § 553(c)(3)(B);

(c) Full costs and expenses of this action, including reasonable attorney's fees, pursuant to § 553(c)(2)(C); and

(d) Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

COUNT II

VIOLATION OF 47 U.S.C. § 605

25. The Plaintiff hereby incorporates the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 24 of the Complaint.

26. The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 605 ("Section 605"), provides in relevant part:

. . . No person not being authorized by the sender shall intercept any radio communication and divulge or publish the existence, contents, substance, purport, effect, or meaning of such intercepted communication to any person. No person not being entitled thereto shall receive or assist in receiving any interstate or foreign communication by radio and use such communication (or any information therein contained) for his own benefit or for benefit of another not entitled thereto. No person having received any intercepted radio communication or having become acquainted with the contents, substance, purport, effect, or meaning of such communication (or any part thereof) knowing that such communication was intercepted, shall divulge or publish the existence, contents, substance, purport, effect, or meaning of such communication (or any part thereof) or use such communication (or any information therein contained) for his own benefit or for the benefit of another not entitled thereto. . . .

47 U.S.C. § 605(a).

27. The Defendants' wrongful actions in connection with the Event, as described above, were in violation of Section 605.

28. Section 605(e)(3)(A) provides that "[a]ny person aggrieved by any violation of subsection (a) of this section...may bring a civil action in a United States district court..."

29. Section 605(d)(6) defines the term "any person aggrieved" as "any person with proprietary rights in the intercepted communication..."

30. By virtue of the License Agreement, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS maintained proprietary rights in the intercepted communication of the Event. Therefore, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is an aggrieved person and is entitled to recover damages from the Defendants

for their violation of Section 605 and their interference with JOE HAND PROMOTIONS' proprietary rights.

31. As a result of the Defendants' wrongful acts, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is entitled to the statutory damages provided for in Section 605.

32. Because of Defendants' wrongful actions, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS is entitled to judgment against the Defendants for (a) statutory damages in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(C)(i)(II); (b) statutory damages in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(C)(ii); and (c) full costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(B)(iii).

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC., requests that this Court enter judgment, jointly and severally, against the Defendants, THE VILLAGE CAFE, INC., a Virginia entity, d/b/a THE VILLAGE CAFE, and/or JOHN DOE, for:

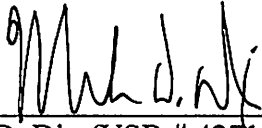
(a) Statutory damages in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(C)(i)(II);

(b) Statutory damages in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(C)(ii);

(c) Full costs and expenses of this action, including attorney's fees pursuant to § 605(e)(3)(B)(iii); and

(d) Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: January 18, 2012

BY: 
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